Appendix B

Special Payments and Bonus Payments

Additional payments may be authorized by caseworkers under specific circumstances described in WAC 388-165-190, as follows:

DSHS pays additional subsidies to a licensed or certified family child care home or center when:

- (1) Care is for nonstandard hours (see WAC 388-165-195 and 388-165-200):
- (2) The infant bonus is authorized (see WAC 388-165-205);
- (3) A child has a documented special need(s) (see WAC 388-165-210, 388-165-215, or 388-165-220); or
- (4) Care is not available at the DSHS rate and the provider's usual rate is authorized.

All types of special payments and bonuses totaled about \$7.8 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2000, or approximately 5 percent of DSHS payments for child care.

Each of these situations is described in more detail below.

Nonstandard Hours Care

Almost half of special payments are for nonstandard hour care. DSHS authorizes nonstandard hour child care payments when fifteen or more hours of care per month meet the definition of nonstandard hours. Nonstandard hours are defined as:

- (1) Before 6:00 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; and/or
- (2) Anytime on Saturday or Sunday.

Payment maximums are set in WAC 388-165-200, which states,

DSHS authorizes the nonstandard hour bonus to licensed or certified child care providers, DSHS pays:

- (1) The DSHS maximum child care subsidy rate as listed in <u>WAC 388-165-180</u> or 388-165-185 or the provider's usual rate for that child, whichever is less; and
- (2) The monthly nonstandard hour bonus as listed in the table below.

Monthly Nonstandard Hour Bonus

Region 1	\$74.00
Region 2	\$73.00
Region 3	\$91.00
Region 4	\$108.00
Region 5	\$80.00
Region 6	\$83.00

Nonstandard hours payments for FY 2000 totaled 39,628 payments, equaling \$3.8 million, or about 49 percent of all special payments dollars.

Infant Placement Bonuses

Infant placement bonuses are offered to increase the availability of infant capacity to DSHS clients. Providers receive \$250 as a one-time payment when they accept an infant into care.

Infant bonus payments totaled \$1.5 million, or about 19 percent of all special payments dollars in FY 2000.

Special Needs Care

Special Needs subsidy provides additional reimbursement to childcare providers caring for children who have a verified physical, mental, emotional, or behavioral condition requiring a higher level of care. A health, mental health or educational professional holding at least a master's degree must verify the child's condition. The additional subsidy rate paid the provider is either the standard regional rate for the age of the child, published in WAC 388-165-215 (centers) or –220 (family homes), or the provider's documented additional cost associated with the care, whichever is greater.

For FY 2000, the DSHS Social Service Payment System shows payments totaling \$700,000 or about 9.7 percent of all special payments dollars.

Other Special Payment Types- Authorized under WAC 388-290-280 for Working Connections Childcare

Registration Payments to providers charging one-time registration fees totaled about \$1.6 million in FY 2000.

Activity Fee payments were \$162,338 in FY 2000.